

Amendments to the Claims

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of programmatically determining whether application  
2 program components are suited for deployment at an edge of a computing network, comprising  
3 steps of:

4 retrieving a P-element vector V(P) containing a numeric value for each of P values for  
5 one or more characteristics of each of one or more a particular executable application program  
6 components component to be potentially deployed at the edge, where  $P > 1$ , each of the  
7 characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application program component and each of  
8 the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is important for this  
9 application program component;

10 retrieving an E-element vector V(E) containing a numeric value for each of E values for  
11 one or more characteristics of an operating environment in which the deployment at the edge is to  
12 potentially occur, where  $E > 1$ , each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of code in the  
13 operating environment and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this  
14 characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

15 retrieving a P x E-dimension policy matrix M(PE) containing numeric values which  
16 expresses express how dependent each of the characteristics of the application program  
17 components [[are]] is on each of the characteristics of the operating environment; and

18 using matrix multiplication to programmatically combining combine the vector V(P), the  
19 vector V(E), and the policy matrix M(PE) values of the characteristics of a particular one of the  
20 application program components, the policy, and the values of the characteristics of the operating  
21 environment to yield a result which determines whether the particular application program

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22 component is suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

1 Claim 2 (previously presented): The method according to Claim 1, further comprising the step of  
2 comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular application program  
3 component is suited for deployment at the edge.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the characteristics of  
2 the one or more application program components and the vector of numeric values therefor are  
3 supplied by developers of the components.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the characteristics of  
2 the operating environment and the vector of numeric values therefor are supplied by an  
3 administrator of the environment.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the policy matrix and  
2 the numeric values contained therein are [[is]] supplied by a deployer.

Claim 6 (canceled)

1 Claim 7 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the values [[of]] in the  
2 ~~characteristics of the one or more application program components~~ P-element vector, the values  
3 [[of]] in the policy matrix, and the values of the characteristics of the operating environment in

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4 the E-element vector range between zero and one.

1 Claim 8 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein the step of using  
2 matrix multiplication further comprises changing the matrix multiplication upon encountering  
3 particular predetermined ~~programmatically combining uses modifications to techniques of matrix~~  
4 ~~multiplication, wherein particular intermediate results signal changes to the matrix multiplication~~  
5 ~~process to substitute a particular number in place of a number generated if performing the matrix~~  
6 multiplication.

1 Claim 9 (currently amended): A system for programmatically determining whether application  
2 program components are suited for deployment at an edge of a computing network, comprising:  
3 means for retrieving a P-element vector V(P) containing a numeric value for each of P  
4 ~~values for one or more characteristics of each of one or more~~ a particular executable application  
5 ~~program components~~ component to be potentially deployed at the edge, where  $P > 1$ , each of the  
6 characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application program component and each of  
7 the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is important for this  
8 application program component;  
9 means for retrieving an E-element vector V(E) containing a numeric value for each of E  
10 ~~values for one or more characteristics of an operating environment in which the deployment at~~  
11 ~~the edge is to potentially occur,~~ where  $E > 1$ , each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of  
12 code in the operating environment and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying  
13 whether this characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

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means for retrieving a P x E-dimension policy matrix M(PE) containing numeric values  
which ~~expresses~~ express how dependent each of the characteristics of the application program  
components ~~[[are]]~~ is on each of the characteristics of the operating environment;

means for using matrix multiplication to programmatically combining combine the vector  
V(P), the vector V(E), and the policy matrix M(PE) values of the characteristics of a particular  
~~one of the application program components, the policy, and the values of the characteristics of~~  
~~the operating environment to yield a result; and~~

means for comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular  
application program component is suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A computer program product for programmatically determining  
whether application program components are suited for deployment at an edge of a computing  
network, the computer program product embodied on one or more computer-readable media and  
comprising:

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for retrieving a P-element vector V(P)  
containing a numeric value for each of P ~~values for one or more characteristics of one or more a~~  
particular executable application program components component to be potentially deployed at  
the edge, where  $P \geq 1$ , each of the characteristics pertaining to executable code of the application  
program component and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this  
characteristic is important for this application program component;

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for retrieving an E-element vector V(E)  
containing a numeric value for each of E ~~values for one or more characteristics of an operating~~

environment in which the deployment at the edge is to potentially occur, where  $E \geq 1$ , each of the characteristics pertaining to execution of code in the operating environment and each of the numeric characteristic values specifying whether this characteristic is applicable for the operating environment;

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for retrieving a  $P \times E$ -dimension policy matrix  $M(PE)$  containing numeric values which ~~expresses~~ express how dependent each of the characteristics of the application program components ~~[[are]]~~ is on each of the characteristics of the operating environment;

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for using matrix multiplication to ~~programmatically combining~~ combine the vector  $V(P)$ , the vector  $V(E)$ , and the policy matrix  $M(PE)$  values of the characteristics of a particular one of the application program components, ~~the policy, and the values of the characteristics of the operating environment~~ to yield a result; and

computer-readable program code ~~[[means]]~~ for comparing the result to a threshold to determine whether the particular application program component is suited for deployment at the edge of the computing network.

Claims 11 - 12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method according to Claim ~~[[13]]~~ 1, wherein the numeric values in the policy matrix provide ~~cells are used, during the programmatically combining step,~~ as weighting factors for yielding the result.

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1 Claim 14 (currently amended): The method according to Claim 1, wherein one of the  
2 characteristics of the particular application program-components component is whether the  
3 particular application program-components ~~need~~ component needs a secure operating  
4 environment and one of the characteristics of the operating environment is whether the operating  
5 environment is secure.